

C1
(cont) position].

19 20 22. (Amended) A facepiece [demand valve] according to claim 41 wherein the movable cover is a resilient flap extending across the outlet opening.

REMARKS

The examiner's indication that claims 43 and 2-36 are allowed is acknowledged with appreciation.

By this amendment, claims 41 and 42 are amended so as more clearly to define applicant's invention in view of the art cited by the examiner. Reconsideration of claims 41 and 42 is requested.

By the office action of April 26, 1999, the examiner rejected claims 41 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Baldwin. Baldwin concerns a simple one-way respirator for use in mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The purpose of nonreturn valve 153 in Baldwin is to protect the operators of the device from inhaling the exhaled breath of the victim. The purpose of applicant's flap 19 is to prevent the ingress of cleaning fluids or other contaminants into the demand valve in order to enable the facepiece to be disinfected between uses by total immersion, without the need for subsequent dismantling and drying of the demand valve. The Baldwin device thus seeks to provide protection against a reverse flow of gas which could be harmful to the operator, whereas the flap of applicant's invention is intended to prevent the ingress of liquids into the demand valve during